

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1                   1. A method of configuring a network access device having a first  
 2 network address allocated to a subscriber of services of a first service provider  
 3 provided by a first service network, with a new network address allocated to a  
 4 subscriber of services of a second service provider provided by a second service  
 5 network, wherein the network access device is connected to an access network  
 6 connected to a plurality of service networks, comprising the steps of:  
 7                   sending a request from the network access device to the access  
 8 network requesting a change to a second service provider;  
 9                   receiving a response from the access network; and  
 10                   initiating a network address change request using a configuration  
 11 protocol,  
 12                   whereby, a second network address allocated to the subscriber of  
 13 services of the second service provider is assigned to the network access device, the  
 14 second network address being utilized by the network access device to communicate  
 15 data packets to the service network providing the selected service .

1                   2. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein said request to said access  
 2 network includes an authentication request for the subscriber.

1           3. The method recited in Claim 2, wherein said response received  
2 from said access network includes an authentication status for the subscriber from the  
3 second service provider and, if authenticated, initiating said network address change  
4 request.

1           4. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the host configuration  
2 protocol is a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP).

1           5. The method recited in Claim 1, wherein the network access device  
2 receives an Internet Protocol address.

1           6. The method recited in Claim 5, wherein the network access device  
2 displays a plurality of service provider choices and enables a subscriber to select a  
3 service provider from among said choices over the access network.

1           7. A method of configuring a network access device having a first  
2 network address allocated to a subscriber of services of a first service provider  
3 provided by a first service network, with a new network address allocated to a  
4 subscriber of services of a second service provider provided by a second service  
5 network, wherein the network access is connected to an access network connected to a  
6 plurality of service networks, comprising the steps of:

7                 sending a request from the network access device to the access  
8 network requesting a change to a second service provider;

9                 receiving a response from the access network; and

10                initiating a network address change request using a DHCP  
11 configuration protocol,

12                whereby a second network address allocated to the subscriber of  
13 services of the second service provider is assigned to the network access device, the

14 second network address being utilized by the network access device to communicate  
 15 data packets to the service network providing the selected service.

1 8. A method of configuring a network access device to obtain a  
 2 network address allocated to a subscriber of services of a selected service provider  
 3 provided by a service network of the selected service provider, wherein the network  
 4 access device is connected to an access network connected to a plurality of service  
 5 networks, comprising the steps of:

6 sending a request from the network access device to the access  
 7 network requesting a change to the selected service provider, wherein said request  
 8 includes an authentication request for the subscriber;

9 receiving a response from the access network, wherein said response  
 10 includes an authentication status for the subscriber; and

11 if the subscriber is authenticated, initiating a network address change  
 12 request using a configuration protocol,

13 whereby a network address allocated to the subscriber of the selected  
 14 service provider is assigned to the network access device, the network address being  
 15 utilized by the network access device to communicate data packets to the service  
 16 network providing the selected service.

1 9. The method recited in Claim 8, wherein the host configuration  
 2 protocol is a dynamic host configuration protocol (DHCP).

1 10. The method recited in Claim 9, wherein the network access device  
 2 receives an Internet Protocol address.

1 11. A method of configuring a network access device having a first  
 2 network address allocated to a subscriber of services of a first service provider  
 3 provided by a first service network, with a new network address allocated to a

subscriber of services of a second service provider provided by a second service network, wherein the network access device is connected to an access network communicating with a service activation system and connected to a plurality of service networks, comprising the steps of:

                    sending authentication information for the second service provider to the service activation system over the access network;

                    receiving an authentication status from the service activation system and, if authenticated;

                    initiating a network address change request using a configuration protocol,

                    whereby a network address allocated to the subscriber of the selected service provider is assigned to the network access device, the network address being utilized by the network access device to communicate data packets to the service network providing the selected service.

12. A method of configuring a network access device having a first network address allocated to a subscriber of services of a first service provider provided by a first service network, with a new network address allocated to a subscriber of services of a second service provider provided by a second service network, wherein the network access device is connected to an access network communicating with a service activation system and connected to a plurality of service networks, comprising the steps of:

                    sending authentication information for the second service provider to the service activation system over the access network;

                    receiving an authentication status from the service activation system and, if authenticated;

12                   initiating a network address change request using a dynamic host  
13   configuration protocol (DHCP),  
14                   whereby a network address allocated to the subscriber of the selected  
15   service provider is assigned to the network access device, the network address being  
16   utilized by the network access device to communicate data packets to the service  
17   network providing the selected service.

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 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